

Improvement in Jan Kerosene Pariyojana

†674. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jan Kerosene Pariyojana launched for checking the black marketing of kerosene in the country and making it available only to the people belonging to poor strata is on the verge of collapse;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps taken to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) to (c) Government approved an innovative pilot project for radically revamping the PDS kerosene distribution network to ensure that this heavily subsidized product is actually made available in the required quantities at subsidized prices to the intended beneficiaries, and also to reverse and eventually eliminate the diversion of PDS SKO for adulteration.

The pilot project under the name of Jan Kerosene Pariyojana (JKP) was launched with effect from 2nd October, 2005 for a period of 6 months. Government has been reviewing the JKP from time to time and is taking necessary action to further streamline the system. Based on the Diagnostic Study conducted by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and a review taken by the Government, the pilot scheme was initially extended for 3 months up to 30th June, 2006 and again up to 30th September, 2006. It has now been further extended up to 30th June, 2007.

LNG Terminal at Kochi

675. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether formalities are completed for the setting up of LNG Terminal at Vallarpadam, Kochi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the present status of the project;

(d) whether the date of laying foundation stone of the project has since been fixed;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Petronet LNG Limited (PLL), a Joint Venture Company promoted by IOC, ONGC, GAIL and BPCL, is setting up an LNG Terminal at Kochi, Kerala.

Land for the project has been allotted. Various pre-project activities have been completed. Statutory clearances for the project have been obtained. Work relating to infrastructure has started. The mechanical completion of the project is expected by June, 2010.

(d) to (f) The date of stone-laying ceremony which was earlier fixed for February 8, 2006, was postponed due to administrative reasons.

Profit earned by oil marketing companies

676. SHRI M.V. MYSURAREDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil marketing companies *i.e.* IOC, BPC, HPC, IBP have earned profit during the 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (Provisional); and

(b) if so, the details of profit after deducting tax, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The details of the profit after tax of the public sector oil marketing companies *viz.* Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and IBP Company Limited (IBP) during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (Provisional) are given in the Statement (See below). IBP has incurred loss during April-September, 2006 (Provisional).